### The i-Create Badge for Creative Thinking

Creative thinking is both the capacity to combine or synthesize existing ideas, images, or expertise in original ways and the experience of thinking, reacting, and working in an imaginative way characterized by a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk taking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Performance Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold (Exemplary)</td>
<td>Silver (Good)</td>
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</table>

### Acquiring Competencies

*This step refers to acquiring strategies and skills within a particular domain.*

- **Evidence of at least 3 well written texts including two signature projects. Issues/problems are consider critically stated clearly and described comprehensively, delivering all relevant information necessary for full understanding.**

- **Evidence of at least 3 well written texts including one signature project. Issues/problems are considered critically stated, described, and clarified so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions.**

- **Adapt: Successfully adapts an appropriate exemplar to his/her own specifications.**

- **Model: Successfully reproduces an appropriate exemplar.**

### Taking Risks and Embracing Contradictions

*May include personal risk (fear of embarrassment or rejection) or risk of failure in successfully completing assignment, i.e. going beyond original parameters of assignment, introducing new materials and forms, tackling controversial topics, advocating unpopular ideas or solutions.*

- **Information is taken from source(s) with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a comprehensive analysis or synthesis. Viewpoints of experts are questioned thoroughly.**

- **Information is taken from source(s) with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis. Viewpoints of experts are subject to questioning.**

- **Considers new directions or approaches without going beyond the guidelines of the assignment**

- **Stays strictly within the guidelines of the assignment.**

### Innovative Thinking

*Novelty or uniqueness (of idea, claim, question, form, etc.)*

- **Thoroughly (systematically and methodically) analyzes own and others' assumptions and carefully evaluates the relevance of contexts when presenting a position.**

- **Identifies own and others' assumptions and several relevant contexts when presenting a position.**

- **Considers and rejects less acceptable approaches to solving problem.**

- **Only a single approach is considered and is used to solve the problem.**
| Connecting, Synthesizing, Transforming | Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is imaginative, taking into account the complexities of an issue. Limits of position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) are acknowledged. Others' points of view are synthesized within position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis). | Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) takes into account the complexities of an issue. Others' points of view are acknowledged within position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis). | Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) acknowledges different sides of an issue. | Reformulates a collection of available ideas |
| Conclusions and related outcomes (implications and consequences) | Conclusions and related outcomes (consequences and implications) are logical and reflect student’s informed evaluation and ability to place evidence and perspectives discussed in priority order. | Conclusion is logically tied to a range of information | Conclusion is logically tied to information (because information is chosen to fit the desired conclusion); some related outcomes (consequences and implications) are identified clearly. | |
| Badge requirements: | Gold rating in a minimum of 4 categories and Silver in a minimum of 1 category | Silver rating in a minimum of 4 categories and Ruby rating in 1 category | Ruby rating in a minimum of 4 categories, Silver rating for a minimum of 1 category | |